



# Pink 'Un



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Follow us on **Tom Elmore's** Hansom Wheels Facebook Page

**The Hansom Wheels Website** (which includes *The Pink 'Un*): <http://www.hansomwheels.com>

“When you see a man with whiskers of that cut and the ‘**Pink 'Un**’ protruding out of his pocket, you can always draw him by a bet”—  
Sherlock Holmes, “The Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle”

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## I Find It Recorded in My Notebook . . .

The Hansom Wheels celebrated our forty-sixth anniversary at The Palmetto Club on April 20 with the following members in attendance: **Richard Blenko, Mary Dematteis, Tom Elmore, Kay Hensley, Becky and Kevin Lewis, George and Sarah Linder, Jamie McCulloch, Allison McNeely, Pat McNeely, Joann and Ashby Morton, Myrtle Robinson, Wayne Scott, Julie Smoak, Monte Steedley, Barbara Yongue, and Your Editor: Phil Dematteis aka The Tantalus.**

After dinner, I announced that the game was afoot; we toasted *the* woman, Irene Adler; and did the responsive reading of The Musgrave Ritual. We then moved to the Happy Hour Posers, where the guests try to dope out the titles of Canonical adventures from a series of puns. Since this meeting was a celebration of our history, we used some classic Posers devised by our late Program Chairman, **Bob Robinson**: 1.  $\cos 86^\circ = \sin 4 = \textit{The Sign of Four}$  [the cosine of 86 and the sine of 4 both = 0697564737, in case you're not into the whole trigonometry thing]. 2. “Bottled Spirits Sold Here” = “The Red Circle” [for our readers in other places: in South Carolina, liquor stores are designated by a sign with a red circle on it]. 3. An effect of Aedes = “The Yellow Face” [yellow fever is spread by Aedes mosquitoes]. 4. Sudden Argentine flare-up = “Silver Blaze,” the Assigned Story for the evening [Argentina is known as “the land of silver”; *argentina* = *silvery* in Spanish]. **Bob's** Posers were so tough that they have to be explained!

Under the heading of Any and All Other Unavoidable Scionic Business, our prolific authors **Pat McNeely** and **Tom Elmore** each announced that they have published new books: *Elizabeth & Ann Timothy: America's First Female Journalists in Colonial and Revolutionary War Times* and *Celtic Columbia*, respectively. And **George and Sarah Linder** presented **Myrtle Robinson** with a vase of flowers in recognition of her many years of service as secretary and Palmetto Club liaison—a position that they had ousted her from and taken over themselves. Just

kidding! **Myrtle** happily retired, and the **Linders** generously agreed to shoulder the responsibility.

That brought us to the Featured Presentation of the evening, “Happy 46th Anniversary, Hansom Wheels!,” presented by me with the aid of newspaper clippings and offprints gathered by **Sarah Linder** and **Myrtle Robinson**. I put this stuff and some other odds and ends together into a slideshow tracing the origin and development of our scion from its beginnings in the misty past in the home of our late founder, the Reverend **Wayne Wall**, through the first official meeting in Room 223 (they couldn't get 221) of McMaster College, the music school at the University of South Carolina, and on to the present.

I wasn't at that first meeting because I didn't know about it; but I attended the second meeting, at the now defunct Mary's Celebrity Supper Club on Two Notch Road, the following month, and have been coming ever since. (Yes, hard though it may be to believe, we used to meet *every month* until 1984, when we cut back to every other month, and finally, in 2007, we went to the current five times a year.)

I talked about and showed pictures of our various meeting places, most of which, like Mary's, no longer exist; our officers over the years; some of our activities, such as the Christmas plays and radio plays, outings to the Colonial Cup horse race, costume parties, the Mystery “Dinner” at Brantley Manor on Lake Murray (which ended disastrously), the *Hound of the Baskervilles* Reading Project at the North Augusta middle schools, and the 2002 Intergalactic Sherlockian Festival. I ended with an “In Memoriam” listing of the many members who are no longer with us.

After everybody patted me on the back and told me what a wonderful presentation it was, we did a group recitation of the Sacred Sonnet, “221B,” and went back to our homes and went to bed and pulled the covers over our heads and dreamed of sugarplum fairies and what the hell am I jabbering about anyway?

## For August: Everything's Coming Up Roses!

The Hansom Wheels will meet at **7:00 p.m.** on **Thursday, August 17**, at **The Palmetto Club**, 1231 Sumter Street. The Featured Presentation will be **Myrtle Robinson's** “A Rose by Any Other Name”; *plus* we will do some audience-participation reciting *and singing* of poems and a song by **Bob Robinson**! This will be fun! The Assigned Reading will be “The Naval Treaty,” in which a rose is mentioned. The price for dinner will be **\$35.00** per person; adult beverages will be available for an extra charge. If you have not already made a

reservation, please do so at [hansomwheels@aol.com](mailto:hansomwheels@aol.com) by **12:00 noon on Monday, August 14**. If you have made a reservation and find that you will not be able to attend, **please cancel no later than noon on Monday, August 14**; we will be charged for all of the meals we have ordered by that time, whether they are eaten or not. Therefore, if you cancel after the deadline or just don't show up, we will be forced to ask you to fork over \$35.00 (\$70.00 for a couple) so that we do not wind up holding the bag. Thank you! See you there!

Happy Hour Posers (Name the Adventures):

- 1. We took an oath while standing on an unkempt plot in the cemetery.
- 2. I lie on the floor and let my dog lick peanut butter off of my bare belly.
- 3. My manservant who takes care of my clothes is a really scary guy.
- 4. He'll probably never get married because he's too blunt and undiplomatic.

Photos from the April Meeting




George & Sarah Linder present Myrtle Robinson with flowers



The Tantalus starts the slideshow

The Hub



Rev. E. Wayne Wall  
"Holy Peters" (BSI, January 1976)  
"Dr. John H. Watson" (HW)  
1977-circa 1981

Program Chairs

  
Bob Robinson  
"The Hansom Cab"  
(BSI, January 1986)  
May 1977-March 2012

  
Diane Bodie & The Tantalus  
May 2012-October 2019

  
The Tantalus  
December 2019-

Emcees

  
G. B. Lane  
"Col. Sebastian Moran"  
Commissionaire  
April 1977-April 2005

  
"Cap'n" Billy Rawl  
Spokesman  
June 2005-October 2015

  
Phil Dematteis  
The Tantalus  
December 2015-

Reservations Takers, Secretaries, Treasurers, Etc.

  
Jack Harville  
1977-1979

  
Margaret Hoffman  
1977-1979

  
Kathy Trice  
1979-1996

  
Kathy Newman  
1997-2017

  
Myrtle Robinson  
2006-2021

  
Tantalus  
2018-

  
Sarah & George Linder  
2021-



Christmas Door Prizes, Music, and Plays

  
Phil Dematteis  
as Black Peter

  
Kathy Trice  
as Julia Stoner

  
Wayne Wall  
as Wilson the Canary Trainer

  
Emory Markwood  
as Jabez Wilson

  
G. B. Lane  
as Guess Who

  
Margaret Hoffman  
as Violet (any of them)

Costume Party June 1984



April 1977



Mary's Celebrity Supper Club  
May 1977



June-September 1977  
\$7.00 (incl. \$1.00 dues)

The Pink 'Un, February 2010

The mortality rate has been high among the restaurants at which the Hansom Wheels have met over the years: Mary's Celebrity Supper Club (and, recently, Mary herself), The Market, The Gate House, Swain's Steak House, The Lion's Head, The Steak & Ale, The Swamp Fox Inn, The Sherlock Holmes Pub, Steamers Seafood Company, almost Damon's Clubhouse (which narrowly escaped condemnation to make room for the Convention Center hotel), and now the New Orleans Riverfront Restaurant!



Mystery "Dinner" to benefit Cancer Society  
Brantley Manor  
August 24, 1991

In Memoriam

N.B.: Damon's is gone now, too.